CHILDREN'S DOMESTIC ABUSE WHEEL
HOW VIOLENCE AFFECTS CHILDREN
Isolation
*Inability to develop social skills
*Feeling alone and different
*Keeping harmful secrets
*Can't have friends over because of need to hide the violence
*Not trusting adults
Emotional Abuse
*Doubting reality
*Fear of doing wrong
*Inconsistent limits and expectations by caregiver
*Fear of expressing feelings
*Inability to learn at school
*Low self-esteem
Intimidation
*Putting children in fear by: using looks, loud actions, loud gestures, loud voice, smashing things, destroying property
*Fear for their physical safety
Physical and Mental Effects
*Children may feel guilt and shame, think it's their fault
*May regress to early stages of development
*Cranky, crabby kids
*Demanding and withdrawn
*Crave/need nurturing from anyone
Sexual Stereotyping
*Copying abuser's dominant and abusive behavior
*Copying victimized passive and submissive behavior
*Unable to express feelings or who they are
Sexual Abuse
*Shame about body
*Feeling threatened and fearful of their sexuality
*Learning inappropriate sexual talk/behavior
*Children having access to pornography magazines
Threats
*Learn to manipulate because of their own safety issues, due to effects of violence in family
*Expressing anger in a way that is violent, abusive, or not expressing anger at all, because of their own fear
Using Children
*Being put in the middle of fights
*Children may take on roles, responsibilities of parents and give up being children
*Children seen and not heard
*Children being used to solve conflicts, asking them to take sides
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